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# PROCEEDINGS

OF

# THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED JULY 20TH, 1869.]

## SESSION 1868–69.

*Thirteenth Meeting* (ANNIVERSARY), 1 P.M., *May 24th*, 1869.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

THE rules which govern the proceedings of the Anniversary, and the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting, having been read, W. Bollaert, Esq., and A. Keith Johnston, Esq., were chosen by the President as Scrutineers of the Ballot, for officers of the Society presently to take place.

The Report of the Council for the past year having been read by the Secretary, Mr. C. R. Markham,

Capt. BEDFORD PIM, R.N., rose to express his regret that the Report contained no allusion to the prospect of obtaining, with the large fund now disposable, a building to contain a Hall of Meeting and Offices for the Society. He wished to read a letter which he had last week addressed to the President on the subject.

The PRESIDENT ruled that the step now taken was out of order, and calculated to lead to a general discussion interrupting the business of the General Meeting.

Dr. WEBSTER then moved, and the Hon. E. KINNAIRD, M.P., seconded the adoption of the Report, and the motion was carried by the Meeting; an amendment, proposed by Capt. PIM and seconded, meeting with three supporters only.

The PRESIDENT then delivered the Royal Medals for the encouragement of geographical science and discovery. The FOUNDER'S MEDAL to Prof. A. E. NORDENSKIÖLD, for having taken a leading part in the conduct of the late Swedish expeditions of discovery and scientific investigation to Spitzbergen and the neighbouring seas. The PATRON'S or VICTORIA MEDAL to Mrs. SOMERVILLE,

for having devoted a long and well-spent life to the production of works which have strikingly illustrated geographical science. His Excellency the Baron de Hochschild, Swedish Minister, attended to receive the medal on the part of Professor Nordenskiöld; the medal for Mrs. Somerville was received by the President.

The President next proceeded to the distribution of the Prize Medals, granted by the Council to successful competitors among the chief public schools of Great Britain and Ireland. He stated that the Council had adopted this scheme of Annual Prizes with the view to encourage the study of geography. He would call upon Mr. F. Galton, one of their Vice-Presidents, who had the merit of having originated the scheme, to explain in a few words the results of the examination for this year.

Mr. F. Galton explained that the number of schools invited by the Council to compete for the medals was thirty-seven, including all the great public schools of the United Kingdom. Out of these, twenty-one accepted the invitation, contributing in all thirty-nine competitors for the prizes in political geography, and forty-two for those in physical geography. The results of the examination were as follow:—

Political Geography—(Examiner, the Rev. W. G. Clark, Public Orator of the University of Cambridge):—*Gold Medal*, Henry C. Richmond, Liverpool College; *Bronze Medal*, James Dearden Wilde, Manchester Grammar School. Other Candidates who were considered deserving of Honourable Mention:—Edward Crabb, Manchester Grammar School; James Henry Collins, Liverpool College, and — Lewis, City of London School, equal; Harold Bailey Dixon, Westminster School; Douglas Samuel Bontflower, Rossall School. Physical Geography — (Examiner, Alfred R. Wallace, Esq., F.R.G.S.):—*Gold Medal*, William Grundy, Rossall School; *Bronze Medal*, George William Gent, Rossall School. Other Candidates who were considered deserving of Honourable Mention:—George Grey Butler, Liverpool College; Martin Stewart, Rossall School, and Alexander Stoddart Wilson, Glasgow High School, equal; Gerald Baldwin Brown, Uppingham School; Ernest Chester Thomas, Manchester Grammar School.

Mr. Galton had further to state that the performance of fully one half of the candidates was considered by the Examiners very creditable to their zeal and industry; and he would add that the performance of the gold medallist in political geography was worthy of exceptionally high praise. The Council, instructed by the experience of their first attempt, would issue, as soon as practicable, revised conditions for the Examination of the year 1870.

Mr. Henry C. Richmond, of Liverpool College, attended to receive the gold medal awarded to him in Political Geography, and Mr. James D. Wilde, of Manchester Grammar School, also attended to

receive the bronze medal. The medals to the prizemen in Physical Geography were presented through Mr. A. R. Wallace, the Examiner.

The Royal Medals and the school prizes having been presented, the PRESIDENT proceeded to read his Annual Address on the leading geographical events of the past year. On its conclusion, Mr. CHARLES WHITE proposed, and Admiral INGLEFIELD seconded a vote of thanks to the President for his Address, with a request that he would allow it to be printed. The PRESIDENT then returned his thanks to the Meeting for their enthusiastic reception of this motion, and for the great attention they had shown throughout the reading of the Address.

At the appointed hour, the Scrutineers reported the result of the Ballot. The following were then declared duly elected as President and Council for the ensuing year: the names in italics being those of the new Councillors:—*President:* Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Bart., K.C.B., F.R.S., &c. *Vice-Presidents:* Vice-Admiral Sir G. Back, D.C.L., F.R.S.; Francis Galton, Esq., M.A., F.R.S.; *Major-General Sir Henry C. Rawlinson*, K.C.B.; Major-General Sir A. Scott Waugh, F.R.S. *Trustees:* Lord Houghton; Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart. *Secretaries:* Clements R. Markham, Esq., F.S.A.; R. H. Major, Esq., F.S.A. *Foreign Secretary:* Cyril C. Graham, Esq. *Councillors:* Right Hon. H. U. Addington; *Hon. George C. Brodrick;* Rear-Admiral R. Collinson, C.B.; James Fergusson, Esq., F.R.S.; A. G. Findlay, Esq.; Right Hon. Sir Thomas F. Fremantle, Bart.; Sir H. Bartle Frere, K.C.B., &c.; *Sir George Grey*, K.C.B.; *Lieut.-Colonel James A. Grant*, C.B., C.S.I.; *M. E. Grant-Duff, Esq.*, M.P.; Captain E. A. Inglefield, R.N., F.R.S.; Captain Felix Jones (late I.N.); *Captain Sir F. Leopold McClintock*, R.N.; Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N., C.B.; Captain George H. Richards, R.N.; Major-Gen. C. P. Rigby, C.B.; *Arthur J. E. Russell*, M.P.; Thomas Thomson, Esq., M.D., F.R.S.; *His Grace the Duke of Wellington; Charles White, Esq.*, J.P.; Sir Harry C. Verney, Bart., M.P. *Treasurer:* Reginald T. Cocks, Esq.

A vote of thanks having been proposed and seconded to the retiring members of Council, Committees, and Auditors, the Meeting separated.

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